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Kite & Co.

Kappa Alpha Theta is in Good Hands

BY: ISABELLA MARKOVSKI-DICKEY | ALPHA/DEPAUW

Earlier this year, I had the pleasure of hiring a writing intern for the marketing and communications department at Kappa Alpha Theta headquarters. I don't get to often interact with younger Thetas in my role, so I was thrilled to meet some collegian and young alumnae candidates.

All the candidates who applied were brilliant, professional, well-rounded, and frankly, just so impressive. I mean, wow. Of course, I know that Thetas are remarkable! It's not like I expected anything different. But we had the hardest time narrowing down the candidates because every single one was exceptional. Each candidate brought a variety of extracurricular and professional experiences, were studying or had studied diverse and complicated topics in school, and were ready to hit the ground running in the internship.

This Spring 2025 issue of the *Theta Magazine* showcases some incredible accomplishments—timely, I know! Ask the Archivist shows us graduation through the years; a special feature shows appreciation for all the things our beloved volunteers take on; and another special feature boasts all the members who celebrate 75 years of membership in 2025 (our Diamond Thetas). Thetas past, present, and future have led and will continue to lead Kappa Alpha Theta into many more years of thriving success.

All in all, the future of our Fraternity is in good hands. No, *great* hands. Future generations of Thetas are ready to take on the hard work; they are curious, motivated, and determined; they will do incredible things in their lives, in their communities, for Theta, and more.

To all of the Thetas who applied: Your futures are so bright, and you will accomplish everything you put your minds to. Simply put, you're amazing and I'm so lucky to have met you!

Bella

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- "Kappa Alpha Theta," "Theta," its coat of arms, its badges, and the Leading Women logo are registered trademarks of Kappa Alpha Theta Fraternity.
- Because Kappa Alpha Theta is not an officially recognized student organization at Duke, Santa Clara, Georgetown, and Harvard, these schools prohibit using their names in any published reference to our Beta Rho, Eta Lambda, Theta Iota, or Zeta Xi Chapters. We designate those chapters with a tilde (~).
- While some terms used in telling members' stories and personal experiences are not currently in use, they were accurate at the time of these members' college experiences.

NEWS, VIEWS, & STUFF YOU CAN USE

Lori Chavez-DeRemer, Gamma Chi/Fresno State, speaking at Grand Convention 2024.

LORI CHAVEZ-DEREMER IS SWORN IN AS THE 30TH U.S. SECRETARY OF LABOR

Lori Chavez-DeRemer, Gamma Chi/Fresno State, was sworn in as U.S. Secretary of Labor on March 11, 2025. Per the official announcement on the U.S. Department of Labor's website, "[Lori] has dedicated over two decades of her life to public service, beginning in 2002 on the Happy Valley Parks Committee in Oregon. … In 2022, [Lori] was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives by Oregon's 5th Congressional District, making history as the first Republican woman and one of the first Latinas elected to Congress from the state." Lori spoke at Grand Convention 2024 about how her Theta experience has helped her excel in her career and develop leadership skills throughout her life (pictured left).

MAINTAINING CONNECTIONS

Each college chapter (active and inactive) has an alumnae contact officer (ACO). It is this volunteer's responsibility to ensure that all the women from her chapter remain connected to Theta. She does this by finding lost Thetas: women for whom we no longer have a current address.

Technology has made the duties of this volunteer position easy to do from anywhere in the world. In fact, we have ACOs living in El Salvador and Germany! You can also be an ACO for a chapter other than your chapter of initiation. If you think this might be the volunteer role for you, check out the vacancies below and email **volunteerengagement@kappaalphatheta.org**.

Eta Lambda/~
Eta Mu/Occidental
Eta Nu/Lake Forest
Eta Tau/Tampa
Theta Lambda/Rochester
Theta Mu/Mines

WELCOME BACK, ETA CHAPTER!

Eta Chapter is returning home to the University of Michigan in winter 2026!

When it was installed in 1879, Eta Chapter was the first women's fraternity in Ann Arbor. In 1886, its charter was withdrawn due to disagreements within the Fraternity, but when it was reestablished (the first time!) in 1893, it was the first chapter in which its charter members were all initiated at Grand Convention. In 1917, the chapter purchased a historic house which was home to Eta members until the chapter was disestablished in 2016, but it is still managed by the Fraternity Housing Corporation (FHC) and will be the home to Eta's newest members!

Founded in 1817, the University of Michigan is the oldest institution of higher education in the state of Michigan. The University boasts more than 280 degree programs across 14 undergraduate schools and colleges and is the higher education home to more than 34,000 students (reported as of fall 2024). Theta will join 17 other Panhellenic organizations at Michigan.

Diamond Thetas

On Founders Day 2025, 660 members celebrated 75 years of Theta membership. In honor of their diamond anniversary, we call this group of sisters Diamond Thetas.

Every year, Theta honors its 75-year (and 50-year) members by mailing them a special pansy pin and letter. In an effort to be as financially responsible as possible, Theta headquarters staff sent congratulatory postcards and/or emails to our 50-year members asking them to contact staff if they were interested in receiving their special 50-year anniversary pin. Many alumnae have been thrilled to recount their times as collegians, their timeless Theta friendships, and their overall gratitude for Theta.

Celebrating 75 Years

A diamond anniversary is worth celebrating! These members were initiated into Kappa Alpha Theta in 1950 and officially celebrated 75 years in Theta on Founders Day.

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Maggie Price Kellogg
Betty Braden Mangan-Smith
Margaret Patrick
Virginia Noyes Rauch
Janet Leask Schweitzer
Audrey Scott
Sally Sipherd
Beverly Purdum Taylor
Jody Hogan Wathey
Margaret Wells Welsh
Latty Whitehead
Patti Parslow Wooldridge

As these special members share their stories with us, we post them on the Diamond Thetas page of the Theta website each year: **www.kappaalphatheta.org/members/recognition/diamond-thetas**.

Financial State of Kappa Alpha Theta 2024

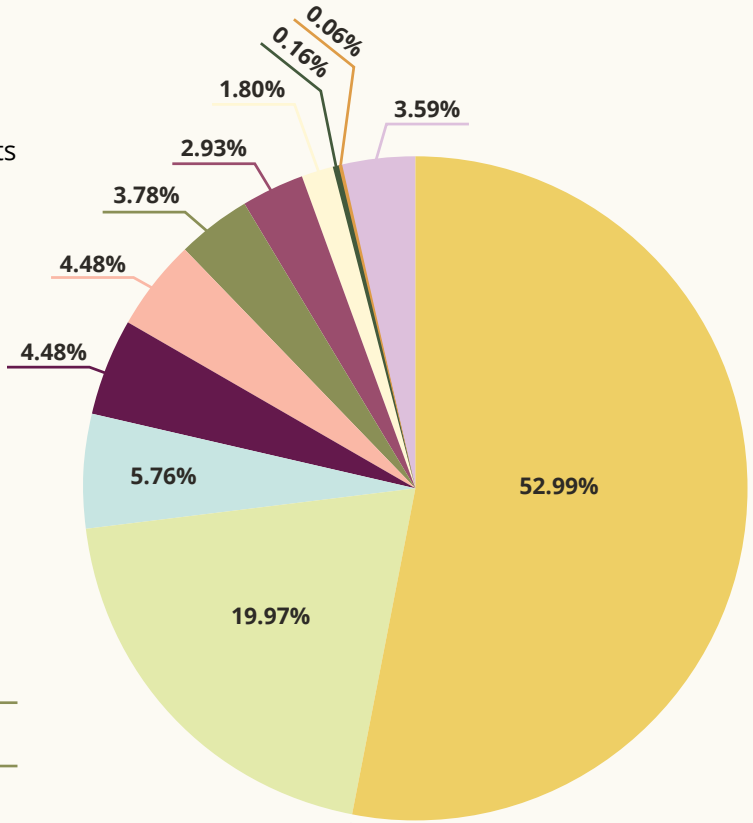
FRATERNITY REPORT JULY 1, 2023 - JUNE 30, 2024

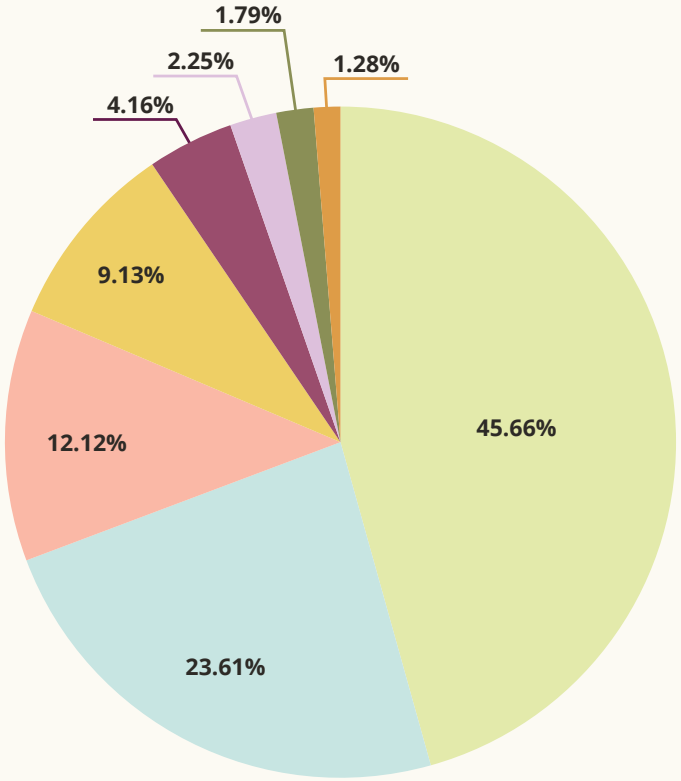
INCOME

$4,774,835	College Chapter Support
$1,799,452	Unrealized Gain/Loss on Investments
$518,983	Theta Foundation Grant
$404,031	Merchandise Sales
$403,770	Risk Management
$340,303	Royalty and Advertising Income
$264,364	Interest Income on Receivables
$162,339	Non-Dues Income*
$14,609	Alumnae Support
$5,340	International Meetings
$323,135	Investment Income - Realized

Grand Total: $9,011,161

**Swap contract, facility corporation services*





EXPENSES

$3,250,712	Administrative and General
$1,680,699	Collegiate Services
$863,131	Alumnae Services
$650,207	International Meetings
$296,259	Risk Management
$160,425	Sales Expense
$127,155	Officer Administration
$91,003	Depreciation

Grand Total: $7,119,591

Net Income 2023-2024: $1,891,570

How Does the Friendship Fund Work?

You may have heard about Kappa Alpha Theta's Friendship Fund. It provides gifts to Thetas experiencing extreme financial hardship due to serious or terminal illness, job loss, natural disaster, and other devastating occurrences. Do you know how it works?

First, money for the Fund comes from donations*: collections at Founders Day celebrations, alumnae or college chapter group donations, or members and friends of Theta feeling generous at any time of the year.

Two members write personal letters** to the Friendship Fund committee (Theta volunteers) requesting a gift for a member in need. The letters should include information about the life-altering situation and explain the extreme financial need (i.e., severe personal financial distress due to prolonged illness, accident, misfortune, or disaster).

If approved for a Friendship Fund gift, a physical check is sent to the member in need. If needed, an automated clearinghouse (ACH) check is an option during natural disasters.

The writers are kept anonymous from the recipient of the gift; she should be surprised when she receives the check in the mail. Secrecy is the inherent nature of the Fund, not only for the protection of the recipient and those making the request, but because the element of surprise has a certain beneficial effect as well as giving the feeling of moral support in a time of need.

The Friendship Fund committee makes all decisions and gifts from the fund are confidential. Names of recipients or those making the requests are not revealed. Gifts from the Friendship Fund are given without expectation of repayment.

Do you want to donate to the Friendship Fund?

Do so online at **www.kappaalphatheta.org/alumnae/friendship-fund**.

You can also mail a check to Theta headquarters:
Kappa Alpha Theta Headquarters
attn: Friendship Fund
8740 Founders Road
Indianapolis, IN 46268

**Gifts to the Fraternity, a 501(c)(7) organization, are not tax-deductible.*

***A gift from the Friendship Fund is never sought by a Theta herself or at her request. Letters can be sent via the Contact Us form on the Theta website (**www.kappaalphatheta.org/contact**), USPS mail to the headquarters address above, or as attachments to an email sent to Executive Assistant Angela Merk (**amerk@kappaalphatheta.org**). More than two letters are always okay, but not necessary.*

Theta Graduates

By: Staff Archivist Noraleen DuVall Young | Alpha Chi/Purdue

Margaret King Cussler, Lambda/Vermont, circa 1893.

For many of us, spring not only means warmer weather and outdoor activities, but also college graduation time! As a college-based organization, it is part of the life cycle of Theta's college chapters to have seniors graduate and move on to life beyond college. Theta's first seniors were two of our founders, Bettie Locke and Alice Allen, who graduated in 1871.

The tradition of the cap and gown is a common thread over the years; it is the outfits, hairstyles, and styling that reflect specific decades. Many of our chapters have created individualized ways to honor their seniors through breakfasts, dinners, special gifts, and other activities, often coordinating with local Theta alumnae. These celebrations not only honor the graduating students' time in college, but they also connect the students to the larger Theta alumnae experience.

Graduates from Omega Chapter at the University of California, Berkeley, circa 1894. Among those pictured is Ednah Wickson Kelley, who later served as Fraternity president from 1901-1905.

Although your Theta story beings in college, it doesn't end when you graduate! At every age and stage of life, you have multiple options for connecting (or reconnecting) with your Theta sisters.

- **Pay alumnae dues:** Voluntary dues enable you to receive all printed issues of the Theta Magazine, along with helping recognize 25-, 50-, and 75-year Thetas; send delegates to Grand Convention; fund alumnae programs; and establish new chapters, and more. Go to **thetaforalifetime.org**.
- **Join an alumnae group:** Go to **www.kappaalphatheta.org/find-a-chapter/alumnae-groups** to see what groups exist near you.
- **Join ThetaConnect:** Sign up for ThetaConnect to search the member directory, find or serve as a mentor, post jobs for other Thetas, and more. Go to **thetaconnect.org**.
- **Volunteer:** Kappa Alpha Theta could not function without the volunteers who serve college and alumnae members. Go to **www.kappaalphatheta.org/alumnae/volunteer**.
- **Become Life Loyal:** By becoming a Life Loyal Theta, you ensure important programs continue to function, and you receive special communication from Theta, like the Theta Magazine and Theta's quarterly alumnae newsletter, Bettie's Buzz. Go to **thetalifeloyal.org**.

Graduates from Zeta Theta Chapter at California Polytechnic State University included Carina Burkhaller Cortez, Jill Wyma Cleveland, Megan Wuth deSimone, Tina Gualco Davis, Teressa Chellino Francis, Erin Kreitz Shirey, Chantelle Knapp, Jill Meadows Andersen, and Kim Elliot McMillan, 1999 (pictured left).

Toasting a successful Senior Week are, left to right, Janice Hays Clark, Antoi "Toni" Krukenberg Cole, Chapter President Joanne Casinelli Geiler, and Virginia "Ginny" Hezlep Wilcott. The seniors at Omicron Chapter at the University of Southern California were honored with weeklong activities including a breakfast, a fashion show sponsored by the Mothers' Club, and nightly get-togethers in the chapter living room, 1964 (pictured right).

Members of Gamma Rho Chapter at the University of California, Santa Barbara, Ana Morley, Michelle Mariano, Molly Johnson, Melissa Crismon Steinbeck, Shannon Mckee, Downey Hebble, and Laurie Cohen returned to celebrate Kathy Neumann Desportes' graduation in 2000 (pictured above).

Dorothy "Dottie" Dittmann Biggs, chapter vice president, and Lauramae Pippin Eckert, chapter president, at Alpha Iota Chapter at the University of Washington-St. Louis, circa 1937 (pictured above).

Graduating members of Beta Mu Chapter at the University of Nevada gather upon their graduation wearing their Theta stoles in 2013 (pictured right).

Graduates from Gamma Sigma Chapter at San Diego State University included Julie Saxton, Leisa Chase Hidas, Stephanie Bostwick Schwenk, Heidi Kleis Gianni, Manda Van Pelt Sias, and Cathie Recker, 1993 (pictured below).

"Our two seniors, who will be graduated this year, will be much missed[.]"

- Jean Christie Chandler Bull, Lambda/Vermont, June 1885, *Kappa Alpha Theta Journal*, Vol. 1 no. 1

Share Your Theta Story

Making a Difference with CASA and Kappa Alpha Theta

Paige Slover, Nu/Hanover, was recognized as the December 2024 Volunteer of the Month for CASA of Lexington. Below, Paige shares why CASA is important to her.

Why are you involved with CASA?

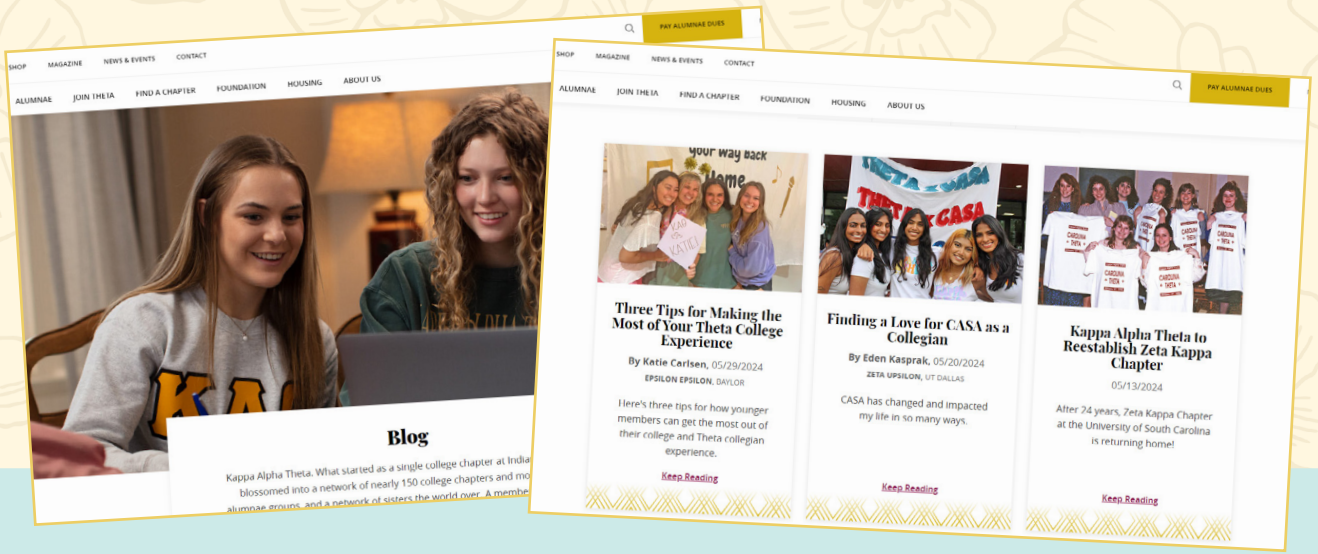
The timing was right: my youngest left for college. CASA was something I've wanted to get involved with for over 30 years.

What have you done for your local CASA?

My second case closed recently. I have represented a total of four children. I do monthly home visits where I play with and get to know the children; meet and correspond with teachers, counselors, therapists, and social workers; talk regularly with the foster parents; meet and talk with the biological parents; and write court reports and attend court as scheduled. We are required to complete continuing education every year and are encouraged to help with CASA events in the community. I still feel new at this (It is only my third year!), so I still feel like I'm learning to get the hang of it all.

How has your CASA involvement impacted you personally?

It's really tough to witness the conditions and experiences in which some children/people live. I was expecting to be humbled and I have been. But I also feel such deep gratitude—something I wasn't expecting.


Blog
Three Tips for Making the Most of Your Theta College Experience
By Katie Carlsen, 05/29/2024
EPSILON EPSILON, BAYLOR
Here's three tips for how younger members can get the most out of their college and Theta collegian experience.
Keep Reading
Finding a Love for CASA as a Collegian
By Eden Kasprak, 05/20/2024
ZETA UPSILON, UT DALLAS
CASA has changed and impacted my life in so many ways.
Keep Reading
Kappa Alpha Theta to Reestablish Zeta Kappa Chapter
05/13/2024
After 24 years, Zeta Kappa Chapter at the University of South Carolina is returning home!
Keep Reading

We're sharing stories that were previously featured on Theta's blog! If you have a story and/or photos to share with us, email ***marketing@kappaalphatheta.org***.

Personally, my family had adopted kids from the angel trees at church and at school. There is one local company who adopts all the area CASA kids, and they are over-the-top generous to these kids! The foster council has a shop where foster children and/or their caregivers can shop for clothing, shoes, coats, games, toys, and more. At checkout, employees include a cinch sack with toiletries in the bagged items.

Additionally, the foster families are amazing. In both of my cases, there were grandparents willing to step up. Imagine how different your life suddenly becomes when you receive custody of your grandchildren! Knowing the kids and families who are on the receiving end of this community-wide generosity is so very heartwarming.

Did membership in Kappa Alpha Theta spur your involvement in CASA?

Absolutely! I attended Grand Convention 1988 as a headquarters staff member, and it was when when the Fraternity adopted National CASA/GAL as our international philanthropy. The minute I learned about CASA I was intrigued, and I decided then that I wanted to be a CASA volunteer someday.

How did your CASA involvement enhance your membership in Theta?

I'd say my knowledge of CASA was greatly enhanced by my association with Theta, not the other way around!

Participating in an angel tree program at the holidays, getting involved in a food drive, or filling weekend backpacks for kids to take home… It all resonates in such a special way when you're involved so closely with the recipients.

Advocating for Children: Beth's Journey as a Guardian ad Litem and Theta Sister

Beth Spransy Dickinson, Delta Xi/North Carolina, is a volunteer for the Friends of Wake County Guardian ad Litem Program in Raleigh, N.C. Since 2020, Beth has served as a guardian ad litem. Below, she shares why CASA/GAL is important to her.

Why are you involved with CASA/GAL?

I have always had a desire to make a difference in the lives of children (hence my former 20+-year education career). This passion led me to become involved with CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates)/GAL (Guardian ad Litem) (Guardian ad Litem). The mission of CASA/GAL resonated with me because I believe every child deserves a safe, loving, and permanent home. The opportunity to be a voice for vulnerable children in the court system was a calling I could not ignore.

What do you do for your local CASA?

As a GAL, my role involves getting to know the child I am assigned to and understanding their needs and circumstances. I gather information from various sources, including teachers, social workers, and family members, to provide the court with a comprehensive view of the child's situation. My responsibilities include visiting the child regularly, attending court hearings, and making recommendations to the judge about what I believe is in the child's best interest. This often involves advocating for services and support that the child may need to thrive. The work can be challenging, but also incredibly rewarding, as I can see the direct impact of my efforts on the child's life.

Beth with her husband, Rob, and children, Brooke and Tyler.

How has your involvement with CASA impacted you personally?

My involvement as a GAL has opened my eyes to the complexities and challenges

faced by children in the foster care system. The experience has taught me the importance of empathy, patience, and resilience. It has also reinforced my belief in the power of advocacy and the difference one person can make in the life of a child. Through this volunteer work, I have developed a deeper sense of purpose and fulfillment, knowing that I am contributing to positive change in my community.

Did your Theta membership inspire you to get involved with CASA?
Absolutely, my membership in Kappa Alpha Theta played a significant role in spurring my involvement with CASA. I first learned of the organization as a collegian through Theta's partnership with CASA. It had been a long-time goal to become a CASA/GAL, but my previous education career made the time commitment difficult.

Beth at her swearing-in ceremony in 2020.

Almost five years ago, I applied for a new job with a requirement of volunteer service during works hours. During the interview, I was asked how I might fulfill this requirement, and I shared my desire to become a GAL. Unbeknownst to me, one of the interviewers was a former CASA and the other was a Theta! I started the job in March 2020 and was sworn in as a GAL in June.

How has your CASA involvement affected your Theta membership experience?
My work with CASA/GAL has enhanced my Theta membership by deepening my connection to the values and mission of our sisterhood. It has provided me with a tangible way to live out the principles of service and advocacy that Theta upholds. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve as a GAL and for the unwavering support of my Theta sisters, who inspire me every day to be the best version of myself. Together, we are making a lasting impact on the lives of children and our communities.

Diving Deeper

WITH THETA FOUNDATION

Shelby Burdo, Beta Mu/Nevada, applied for a Theta Foundation individual grant to help support a certificate program she was pursuing over the summer. A life-long dream, Shelby was preparing to participate in the PADI Divemaster Internship and GoECO Marine Conservation and Ecology Course. This is a highly rated program hosted by the Utila Dive Center in Honduras, the gold standard for professional diver career development, revered for its proximity to the healthiest remaining coral reef in the Caribbean. As an aspiring marine conservationist, this was an essential step for Shelby, but the training comes at a cost. She applied for a grant to help offset the financial requirement of the program.

TILOS

With the help of a Theta Foundation grant, Shelby spent two months in the Bay Islands. During the first month, she trained to become a professional PADI Divemaster and was ultimately awarded the prestigious certification. During the second month, she participated in the GoECO Marine Conservation and Ecology portion of the program. She honed skills in species identification, scientific surveying, and ecosystem health assessment through working at a licensed coral nursery. In her application, Shelby noted, "[M]y generation may be the last to see living coral in the oceans, but I am determined to join the effort to curtail this dim projection from becoming reality. My participation in this program will empower me with the necessary knowledge and skillset to advocate for and protect vital marine ecosystems."

Education Without Barriers

Leigh Alvarez, Zeta Kappa/South Carolina, applied for a Theta Foundation scholarship in 2022. She was seeking financial support to pursue a master's degree in Hotel, Restaurant, and Tourism Administration to help jumpstart her "second career." Leigh graduated from the University of South Carolina in 1992. She spent 30+ years climbing the corporate ladder, working throughout the United States and Canada, while building a family at the same time. She knew that obtaining a graduate degree would help set her apart from the competition in her desired field, sparking an interest in returning to school.

As with most aspiring students, one of her biggest concerns about returning to school was the cost. Leigh said, "I knew scholarships could help ease this stress, but I wondered if being a non-traditional student would put me at a disadvantage. I quickly learned the opposite was true - there are Theta Foundation scholarships that are awarded to active members AND alumnae."

"Returning back to school to obtain my master's degree has been one of the most challenging and rewarding journeys of my life...[R]eceiving the Dorothy Whitehurst Heard Scholarship from Theta Foundation reminded me that hard work and perseverance truly pay off."

With her newly gained credentials, Shelby is much more qualified to work as a professional in the marine conservation field and hopes to make a difference in protecting vital marine ecosystems. “Access to grant funding as a Theta alumna has significantly reduced the financial burden needed to establish my career path in marine conservation. Pursuing my Divemaster certification and engaging in SCUBA based marine ecology coursework has been a long-term dream of mine that has been made possible due to Theta Foundation funding. This grant award has truly proved that Theta membership is an invaluable lifelong experience.”

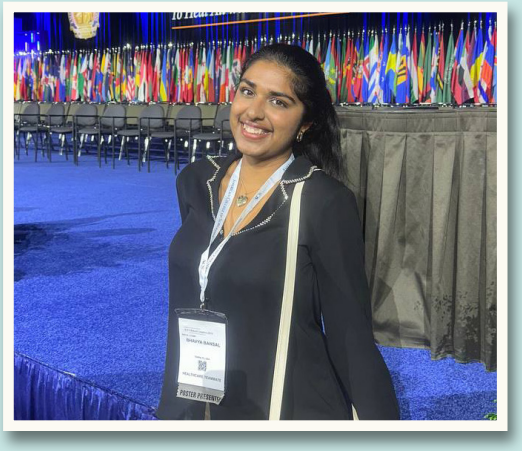
In December 2022, at the age of 53, Leigh graduated from the University of Houston, Conrad Hilton School of Hospitality with her Executive Master’s in Global Hospitality Leadership. She earned a GPA of 3.7.

Not only has receiving a scholarship allowed Leigh to pursue her ambitions without financial concerns, but it has also reignited her relationship with Theta as an alumna. Leigh is an active member of the Houston Alumnae Chapter and is volunteering her time to evaluate Theta Foundation scholarship applications this year – a true full circle moment!

Theta Foundation is proud to offer scholarships to college and alumnae members for both undergraduate and graduate study. It is one of the many ways that Theta continues to show up for members in all stages of life.

Recent Grant Recipients

Because of a Theta Foundation grant, the **Edmonton Alumnae Chapter** was able to host a self-defense workshop in the fall. They connected with a retired police officer and his college-age daughter to help them gain a basic understanding of self-defense, situational awareness, and avoidance tactics. Both current collegians and alumnae chapter members participated! The chapter noted that "participants now stand a little taller, have their eyes open a little wider, and walk with more confidence."



Bhavya Bansal, Eta Pi/Case Western Reserve, is a current sophomore majoring in Medical Anthropology and Biology & Society. She was selected (as an 18-year-old!) to deliver an oral presentation based on her research, the Implications of Subsequent Hepatectomy through the Robotic Platform, at the American College of Surgeons Clinical Congress in San Francisco. She hopes to revolutionize surgical robotics for pediatric care and is particularly interested in robotic-assisted minimally invasive surgery.

Behind Every Scholarship is a Story

Pat Doomar Mierse, Beta Nu/Florida State, recently established an endowed scholarship in her name. Her scholarship will be awarded for the first time this summer. She shared why it was important to establish this award.

Why did you choose to establish a Theta Foundation scholarship?

Choosing to join Kappa Alpha Theta has been one of the most important decisions I have ever made. As an only child, my Theta sisters have enriched my life in so many ways. Not only when I was in college but continuing through the years.

What would you want the recipients of this scholarship to know about you or the purpose for which it was established?

I was blessed to be able to establish this scholarship. In 1965, I was the first person from either side of my family tree to obtain a college degree. Since then, my daughter followed in my footsteps at Florida State University and at Beta Nu Chapter.

Tell us about your favorite Theta tradition or story, or what Theta has meant to you.

Living in the Beta Nu house with so many wonderful sisters helped me feel comfortable meeting new friends as my husband and I moved around the country.

What do you hope that recipients gain by receiving this scholarship?

Kappa Alpha Theta has been a precious thread through my college days, my years as part of a young married couple, and now in my older years. Theta is truly for a lifetime. I hope my recipients have the same experience throughout their Theta and educational journeys.

Ensure Thetas Can Achieve More for Years to Come

When Kappa Alpha Theta was founded 155 years ago, a tradition of academic excellence, widest influence for good, and love began. That tradition continues when donors commit to ensure the Theta experience exists for future members. In planning your future, both during your lifetime and after, we hope you will remember Kappa Alpha Theta.

The Lambert Legacy Society recognizes members and friends who have thoughtfully included gifts to Kappa Alpha Theta Foundation in their estate plans. It is named for **Betty Baur Lambert, Alpha Chi/Purdue**, and her husband, James, whose generous bequest became a leading source for Kappa Alpha Theta's graduate scholarship program.

To become a member of the Lambert Legacy Society, or to learn more about leaving your legacy with Kappa Alpha Theta, please visit **kappaalphatheta.planmylegacy.org** or use the Contact Us form on the Theta website with Foundation selected in the drop-down menu.

"There is no greater reward for our wonderful gift of Theta friendship for a lifetime than saying 'thank you' with a gift of time or money to support and carry on the legacy that we have been privileged to be a part of and enjoy." -Betty Baur Lambert, Alpha Chi/Purdue

"While serving as a trustee for Theta Foundation, I had the opportunity to witness the power of Theta Foundation scholarship giving. ... My husband, John, and I established an endowed scholarship which was awarded for the first time in 2024. We are honored to leave a planned gift designated to this scholarship that will benefit the educational dreams of future Theta generations."

-Carolyn Catron Woodard, Gamma Tau/Tulsa

From now until June 30, you can honor the Theta collegian(s) in your life by making a gift to Theta Foundation to ensure Theta's educational and leadership experiences exist and become accessible to all Thetas! **When you give $100 or more, they will receive a limited-edition Kappa Alpha Theta canvas pencil bag.** Scan the QR code to make your gift today!

Kappa Alpha Theta Foundation is registered with the IRS as a 501(c)(3) organization. Gifts to Theta Foundation are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Volunteers, WE SEE YOU!

Through service at the international, district, and local levels, Thetas all around the world are making an impact within their chapters, throughout their communities, and with each other through volunteering. Kappa Alpha Theta cannot function without the thousands of volunteers who make it all happen. Thank you, Theta volunteers!

Did you know?

Volunteering for Theta has countless benefits! Below are just a few of note.

- You know that you are making an impact on someone else. Helping other Thetas (especially collegians) and improving your local community through opportunities such as chapter service projects can put you into a positive mindset.
- You can increase happiness in your personal and/or professional life. Volunteering can introduce us to new people and can strengthen long-term relationships. Many Theta friendships are intergenerational and transcend geographic distance. And it's always exciting meeting new sisters. Thetas tend to bring joy wherever they go!
- You can develop confidence in leadership and/or mentoring roles. Meeting new people, leading or participating in a meeting or group project, organizing schedules, working with collegians, and helping us face possibly intimidating situations... Volunteering can help us tackle new adventures head-on and make us better people by sharpening our communication, organization, and communication skills.

Have you considered sharing your time and talents with Kappa Alpha Theta? It's easy to do so! Fill out the volunteer interest indicator on the Theta website (**www.kappaalphatheta.org/alumnae/volunteer**) and let us know how you'd like to serve!

1,699
OF OUR VOLUNTEERS SERVE IN PERSON

173
CHAPTERS OF INITIATION ARE REPRESENTED ACROSS OUR VOLUNTEERS

THE MOST REPRESENTED COLLEGE CHAPTER IS GAMMA PHI CHAPTER WITH **52** VOLUNTEERS

THETA'S VOLUNTEERS SERVE
2,878
COLLEGE CHAPTER OFFICERS

THETA VOLUNTEERS LIVE IN ALL
50 STATES,
FIVE CANADIAN PROVINCES, GERMANY, IRELAND, SHANDONG, AND PUERTO RICO

781
VOLUNTEERS ARE LIFE LOYAL

VOLUNTEERS RANGE IN AGE FROM
21–86

THETA BOASTS **3,631**
INDIVIDUAL VOLUNTEERS, THOUGH SEVERAL HOLD MULTIPLE ROLES

Theta's volunteer base is comprised of 123 workforce members; 1,758 advisors; 817 alumnae chapter officers; 179 alumnae contact officers (ACOs); 124 facility corporation volunteers; and nine National Panhellenic Conference (NPC) volunteers.

Additionally, we can't forget the important work of facilitators, Theta Foundation scholarship reviewers, workgroup members, and so many more.

Snapshots

INDIVIDUAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

A When **Beth Allen Tiernan, Delta/Illinois**, began her quilt to share with her Theta sisters, she had no idea that it would take on a life of its own. For the last 15 years, the quilt she initially created to pass along to her lifelong Theta friends has been sent around the country to Thetas in need. Her quilt has been requested in homes and hospitals, offering comfort and memories to any and everyone.

ALUMNAE, REUNIONS, + EVENTS

B The **Milwaukee Alumnae Chapter** hosted some fun summer festivities including a potluck hosted by **Hollie Reep Schick, Psi/Wisconsin**. The photographer, **Toni Millan, Psi/Wisconsin**, has college-aged daughters who have coached her on the best selfie practices. Pictured are **Christine Luedeman Fenner, Alpha Psi/Lawrence; Anne-Marie Bielinski Crowley, Psi/Wisconsin; Laura Gmeinder Mattek, Psi/Wisconsin; Caroline Spongberg, Upsilon/Minnesota; Cheryl Naasko-Pounds, Psi/Wisconsin; Helen Mueller, Cheryl's mother; Ashley Feldt Storvick, Beta Kappa/Drake; Hollie Reep Schick, Psi/Wisconsin;** and **Amanda Clements Groshek, Delta Kappa/LSU**.

C Theta staff and volunteers participated in CASA's Walk Run Thrive, raising more than $1,500. Pictured are **Jennifer Broughton Schmaltz, Gamma/Butler; Laura Richardson Bright, Beta Tau/Denison; Megan Brady; Teresa Silva Smith, Phi/Pacific; Kristine Larson Wix, Beta Nu/Florida State; Liz Sinnock Drake, Beta/Indiana; Kristin Daggett Williams, Epsilon Epsilon/Baylor; Tracy Cosgrove, Tau/Northwestern; Cynthea Strube Yestal, Beta Chi/Alberta; TJ Flynn Condon, Epsilon Lambda/Dickinson; Nicole Frank, Beta Theta/Idaho; Laura Ware Doerre, Delta Xi/North Carolina; Cate Lock Bibb, Gamma Phi/Texas Tech; Leah Hartman, Nu/Hanover; Erica D'Angelo Ochs, Eta Nu/Lake Forest; Nancy Milligan Frick, Alpha/DePauw; Leslie Holzmark Franklin, Alpha Phi/Tulane; Emma Silvers Gibson, Alpha Xi/Oregon; Syreen Goulmamine, Epsilon Omicron/Randolph-Macon; Brittany Booth Vasseur, Pi/Albion; Katharine Murphy, Gamma Zeta/Connecticut; Lisa Delacruz Combs, Alpha Gamma/Ohio State;** and **Melissa Shaub, Alpha Sigma/Washington State**.

D Alumnae members of **Alpha Mu Chapter at the University of Missouri** enjoyed a 50th anniversary celebration dinner back in June.

E Back in September, 25 **Gamma Chapter** alumnae from all over Indiana met for a reunion hosted by **Wendy Sears Goshert**. Pictured from left to right are **Carol Culbertson Ernst, Ann Whitcomb Guggenheim, Valentine Corcoran Wenzler, Cathy Stout Bayse, Cathy Wilcox Lunghuhn, Lee Ann Theofanis Greisl, Allison Warner Davis, Sally McFarland Wirthwein, Joan Miller Miller, Nancy Hamilton Sowder, Colleen O'Connor Huxhold, Betsy Whitehead McIntyre, Tracey Horth Krueger, Liz Harlow Harper, Rhonda Peelen Daly, Amy Schwartzkopf Hafner, Stephani Smyrnis Calderon, Arden Stewart Harrington, Lisa Repass McMullen, Leslie Olsen, Jeri McClure Altum, Kay Spoon Lee, Beth Bain Casselman, Judy Stauffer Knafel,** and **Wendy Sears Goshert,** all **Gamma/Butler**.

F **Eta Omega Chapter** members had an amazing time participating in the local CASA fundraiser. Pictured are **Lauren Paul, Erin Gallagher, Lauren Brace, Caroline Smyth,** and **Sophie Thibault**, all **Eta Omega/Saint Louis**.

G **Delta Iota Chapter** and the **Tacoma Alumnae Chapter** hosted a joint housewarming and back-to-school celebration. They had a great time getting to know one another and sharing how they could both help their Tacoma community.

H After meeting in 1992, best friends joined **Epsilon Rho Chapter** in 1993. After nearly 30 years of sisterhood, they continue to celebrate all major milestones with one another. In August, they even celebrated their respective 50th birthdays together in Wilmington, N.C. Pictured are **Christine Carroll Tobias, Stephanie Walkup, Janine Gallagher Kurz, Susan Fredericks Clement, Donna Hoerlein Gallagher, Colleen Conway MacClay,** and **Doreen Howard Petersen,** all **Epsilon Rho/Lehigh**.

I The week after Labor Day, alumnae from **Beta Phi Chapter** packed their bags and traveled to Stone Harbor, N.J., for a reunion: **Louise Cupelli, Ruth Whalley Klementik, Betty Westrick Cummins, Kate Rittner, Mary Ann Harlacker, Martha Scotzin, Jean Johnston Converse, Paula Steinle, Susy Smith Beck, Barbara Anstadt Bradley,** and **Diane Gallagher,** all **Beta Phi/Penn State**.

J Even after 40 years, alumnae members of **Alpha Chapter at DePauw University** still have fun creating memories together. In July, **Julie Frier Palmore** hosted her sisters, all initiated in 1979, at her lake house in Virginia. She even took them for a drive on her backhoe and specially decorated wagon. In attendance were **Leslie Dunn Nutt, Julie, Jeri Lyday Hise, Meg McCarty Shelly, Megan Cassidy Walls, Laura Belfiglio Gold, Debi Doyle Zablock, Susan Chiappe Lynch, Mary Matson Latta, Sue Collins Vonbaeyer,** and **Nancy Riker MacDonald,** all **Alpha/DePauw**.

K Fifty alumnae members from the graduating classes between 1980 and 1985 of Indiana University planned and gathered in Bloomington, Ind., for a reunion weekend. During their weekend, these **Beta Chapter** alumnae toured the updated house and enjoyed a tailgate before an Indiana football win.

L A serendipitous encounter in Austin, Tex., brought together three generations of Thetas. **Mary Ellen Wright Bos, Alpha Eta/Vanderbilt; Lois Hamilton Wright, Alpha Theta/Texas; Ellie Bos, Alpha Theta/Texas; Hardin Hanson, Alpha Theta/Texas; Kristen Hicks Hanson, Alpha Eta/Vanderbilt;** and **Debbie Vaughan Hicks, Alpha Theta/Texas**, attended initiation for the fall 2024 new member class at the **University of Texas at Austin**. Lois and Debbie, the grandmothers, were initiated in 1970 into **Alpha Theta Chapter**, and their daughters, Mary Ellen and Kristen, were both initiated in 1994 at **Alpha Eta Chapter**. Mary Ellen's and Kristen's daughters, Ellie and Hardin, were initiated together at **Alpha Theta Chapter**.

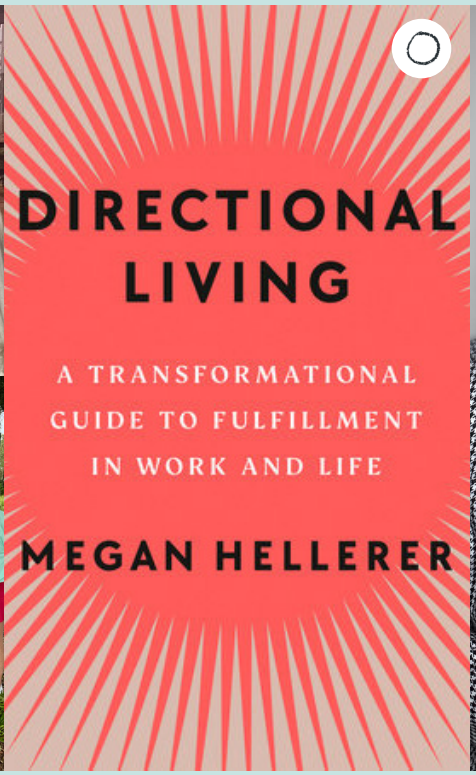
M During last year's Grand Convention in National Harbor, Md., Theta alumnae and collegians from all over gathered, including some for the very first time, like **Ginger Gardner Featherstone, Delta Theta/Florida**. During her time, she reconnected with her Delta Theta Chapter sisters. Pictured are **Pam Williams LaCrosse, Ginger Gardner Featherstone, Zoe Vann, Beth Spransy Dickinson,** and **Deborah Bornmann Allen,** all **Delta Theta/Florida**.

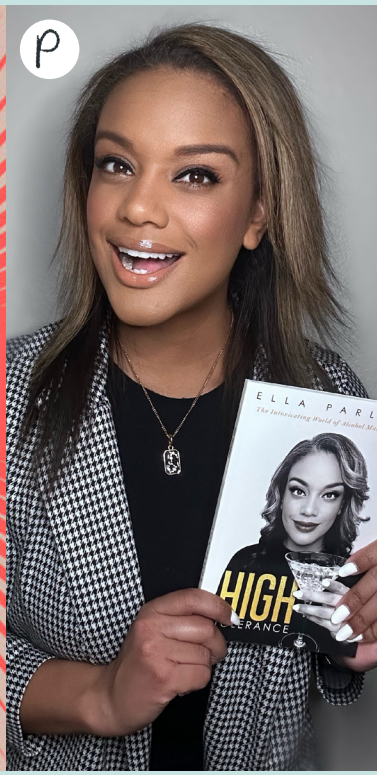
N Several Thetas in the **Sarasota Alumnae Chapter** participated both in person and virtually in CASA's Walk Run Thrive.

AUTHORS

O **Megan Hellerer, Phi deuteron/Stanford**, published her first book called *Directional Living* with Penguin Random House last year. This is her first book, and she currently works as a career coach with a wide variety of clients.

P Becoming a founding member of **Eta Sigma Chapter** at Chapman University was just the tip of the iceberg of success for **Ella Parlor**. In November 2023, Ella launched her first book, *High Tolerance*, which explores the relationship between alcohol and the advertising and marketing business. In January 2024, Ella hosted a virtual fundraiser benefiting Dallas CASA from her book sales, resulting in more than $1,000 raised.





Kappa Alpha Theta mourns the loss of these members who passed away during 2024.

Dates indicate the year of initiation.

Alpha/DePauw
Joan Westmen Battey, 1951
Martha Harrison Bentzen, 1957
Sue Bradley Fitch, 1959
Marcia Davis Hansen, 1962
Carla Andrews Heskett, 1952
Sue Willander Hodgkinson, 1970
Mary Shattuck Ives, 1950
Jane Jewett, 1975
Sandra Brooks Jordan, 1950
Marilyn Shanks Klingaman, 1951
Rosemary Davis Shaw, 1955
Joyce Hyatt Strickland, 1969
Patricia Mannin Tillman, 1955

Beta/Indiana
Emily Weirich Bandera, 1951
Marty Hartzell Clevenger, 1954
Barbara Clark Hoster, 1952
Betty Wray Adams Lodewick, 1949
Susan Crisler Morton, 1953
Helen Holland Salisbury-Gross, 1941

Gamma/Butler
Ann Thompson Cornell, 1972
Julia Moore Hollenbeck, 1950
Nancy Holle Johnson, 1961
Margie Campbell McNamara, 1952
Jane Bernhardt Moore, 1957
Susie Porteous Parkes, 1980
Martha Teeter Spraetz, 1956

Mu/Allegheny
Jane Lindsay Koepf, 1961
Kathleen Davis Snider, 1960
Nancy Archer Walk, 1950

Eta/Michigan
Paddy Ann McBride Ash, 1954
Esther Heyt Carlson, 1954
Sally Childs Coe, 1947
Susan Bartholomew Hall, 1962
Bev Pryor Hamilton, 1945
Julia White Haydn-Jones, 1963

Iota/Cornell
Lynn Heidelberger MacEwen, 1949

Kappa/Kansas
Marcie Wilson Bierlein, 1961
Marcia Scott Groth, 1956
Robin Bruner Hudson, 1964
Nancy Stevenson Michener, 1959
Anna Wilson Mills, 1957
Janet Clark Smith, 1959

Lambda/Vermont
Dorothy Ferris Elsner, 1944
Irmgard Downie Feola, 1955
Marge Salm Hudson, 1948

Gamma deuteron/ Ohio Wesleyan
Connie Conklin Bell, 1953
Dorothy Lerch Berner, 1945
Helen Heydenburg Carmichael, 1955
Ros Seabury Collins, 1949
Denise Ganther Dowling, 1961
Anne Fauver, 1960
Sharlee Staten Guster, 1950
Georgie Adams Perkins, 1959

Nu/Hanover
Suzanne McCutchan Aiken, 1960
Kim Lathrop Cotton, 2001
Sandi Johnson Forsythe, 1961

Omicron/USC
Marjorie Hansen Evans, 1983
Dixie Hix Fraley, 1953
Margarethe Bertelson Knoblock, 1961
Alice Painter Stackpole, 1952
Natalie Cooper Wallace, 1950
Meredith Cooper Worrell, 1959

Pi/Albion
Carolyn Sonquist Hannenberg, 1986
Estelle Amstutz Heigele, 1958
Mugs Touborg Klapperich, 1955
Marci Fairgrieve Smith, 1959

Rho/Nebraska
Judith Flansburg Burton, 1952
Sandra Walt Condon, 1950
Anne Pickett Savaria, 1956
Rebecca Sherwood, 1976
Mary Grube Wahl, 1968

Tau/Northwestern
Carolyn Doane Bowman, 1945
Susan Consentino, 1983
Barb Cunningham, 1957
Alice Gridley Harrison, 1949
Suzanne Buckles Jackson, 1951
Diana Bray Schultz, 1950
Sarah Noble Spire, 1942
Lois Allan Waller, 1944

Upsilon/Minnesota
Patricia Lundin Buckholz, 1948
Joanne Olsen Hermann, 1949

Phi/Pacific
Sylvia Ishkanian Connelly, 1959
Nyla Brichetto Fornaciari, 1959
Jennifer Lincoln Jeska, 2002
Shelly Smith Kuney, 1963

Chi/Syracuse
Nan Cunningham Farley, 1944
Mary Sanders Pierce, 1942
Sally Mahoney Trosset, 1987
Anne Wohlforth Vanderlip, 1949

Psi/Wisconsin
Mary Zaeske Bradley, 1961
Mary Lu Polzin DeWitt, 1950
Willa Widerborg Menck, 1951

Omega/UC Berkeley
Joan Bowker DeYager, 1945
Trudy Garrettson, 1959
ConnieLou Dunn Shiras, 1954

Alpha Gamma/Ohio State
Ann Donaldson Aldrich, 1950
Linda Davis Caren, 1960
Judy Adams Clark, 1957
Charlene Cline, 1965
Anne Millikin Crawford, 1967
Elise Webster Crum, 1950
Joan Peters Hornbeck, 1958
Kim Karpiak Lindley, 1978
Markie Hamman May, 1942
Carolyn Schlieper McConnaughey, 1949
Dorothy Dilmore Van Almen, 1944
Eileen Roof Watson, 1950

Delta/Illinois
Eleanor Lang Chapin, 1944
Mary Ellen Drenckhahn Fleischli, 1956
Sandy Halliday Hoard, 1955
Ann Maher Hosbein, 1950
Molly Moore Walbaum, 1957

Alpha Delta/Goucher
Jean Johnson Barry, 1950
Dorothy Cort Leonhardt, 1938
Tish Spaulding, 1950

Alpha Eta/Vanderbilt
Carolyn Hunter Anderson, 1954

Mary Crockett Davis, 1951
Beji Lauffer Fitts, 1954
Martha Bryan Foreman, 1941
Peggy Casparis Groos, 1954
Laura Carter Higley, 1966
Mary Berry Kennedy, 1975
Linda Crank Moseley, 1945
Margaret Smith Warner, 1957
Amelia Spickard Watson, 1954

Alpha Theta/Texas

Jane Drought Bell, 1974
Jane Holt Bostwick, 1950
Nanci Meyers Bovey, 1957
Marian Britton, 1957
Patti Hughs Burke, 1955
Allison Cook, 1987
Mary Morris Hornsby, 1957
Helen Riddick Janse, 1953
Norma Lesley Jordan, 1950
Susanne Stedman King, 1954
Sallie Wynne Mansell, 1977
Ann Maddox Moore, 1950
Olivia Ford Munson, 1960
Jan Armstrong Neuenschwander, 1955
Dorothy Neblett Perkins, 1956
Anne Wise Pullen, 1953
Nancy Bivins Raine, 1955
Becky Crowder Shatto, 1956
Margaret Lutz Stavros, 1967
Bea Clayton Watson, 1946
Alice Wiemers White, 1963

Alpha Iota/ Washington-St. Louis

Margie Knight Gable, 1942
Ann Martin Lambertson, 1949
Marilyn Simon Lord, 1950
Jane Griesedieck Webster, 1949

Alpha Lambda/Washington

Ann Kellogg Dona, 1950
Lee Brown Elliott, 1959
Colleen Cooke Heideman, 1952
Karen Cosby Nelson, 1953
Sandra Jones Senna, 1954
Kathy Bennerstrom Vander Hoek, 1960

Alpha Mu/Missouri

Jane Holliway Bergner, 1966
Charlene Morgenstern Brennan, 1961
Susan Mitchell Callis, 1953
Jerry Arthur Harris, 1960
Kathy Krider Hawken, 1967
Mary Schneider Watkins, 1962
Emily Wolpers, 1965

Alpha Nu/Montana

Sydne Thisted Abernathy, 1958
Mary Kay McEacheron Byorth, 1962
Georganna Schara Clifford, 1969
Susan Travis Galloway, 1951
Ilo Viestenz Murphy, 1962
Shirley Roehm Scott, 1946

Alpha Xi/Oregon

Pamela Bladine, 1963
Nancy Wortman Coffey, 1945
Stephanie Pinniger Keen, 1982
Patricia Swindells Riedel, 1956
Mary Merrifield Zehrung, 1949

Alpha Omicron/Oklahoma

Carolyn Pounders Capps, 1946
Lynne Scott Chesley, 1969
Diane Douglass, 1955
Claire Phillips Henderson, 1994
Mary Anne Mark Malone, 1962
Linda Loveall Massad, 1957

Alpha Pi/North Dakota

Mary Ellen Okerstrom Berning, 1959
Joanne Buan Nelson, 1954

Alpha Rho/South Dakota

Cynthia Johnson Appelt, 1964
Nancy Ellwein, 1964
Lois Rossow Gellerman, 1955
Mary Holgate Geppert, 1951
Karlee Hughes, 2024
Kristin Peterson Hughes, 1974
Phyl Leikvold Iszard, 1943
Becky Kent Medins, 1971
Renae Lehr Peterson, 1955
Janice Nepstad Pierson, 1953
Colleen Herrboldt Sehnert, 1950
Gloria Schlapkohl Siekmeier, 1951

> ***"I try to uphold the standards that Theta taught: be kind to others and be the best you can be."***
>
> Peggy Grayson Post,
> Delta Kappa/LSU

Alpha Sigma/ Washington State

Sandy Brown Tucker, 1967

Alpha Tau/Cincinnati

Peggy Ann Gatch, 1941
Betsy Folz Jackson, 1957
Susan Butler McBeath, 1966
Martha Burton Moores, 1950
Beverly Benton Stegman, 1951
Jean Lea Taylor, 1955

Alpha Upsilon/Washburn

Mary Francis Counter, 1967
Darlene Elwood, 2008
Nancy Lindemuth Laster, 1945
Barbara Dickeson Leabo, 1961

Alpha Phi/Tulane

Alexa Anderson, 1989
Anne Tomlinson Arthur, 1959
Carol Fraser Bartlett, 1941
Jan Mercer Brown, 1955
Linda Lane Farmer, 1964
Aline Stouse Koppel, 1950
Sarah Turner Pedrick, 1951
Joyce Caldwell Randazzo, 1947
Mary Gail Coutret Woodman, 1955

Alpha Chi/Purdue

Dru Somers Doehrman, 1950
Carol Bandelin Edmier, 1955
Marge Wiggins Hanley, 1949
Barb Behn Lane, 1957
Patricia Good Reimnitz, 1960
Louise Dittrich Routt, 1955

Alpha Psi/Lawrence

Jane Whelan Berger, 1953
Elizabeth McIntyre Gibson, 1954
Cindy Scidmore Hackworthy, 1961
Karla Heinemann Ramsey, 1957
Nancy Gregg Shehi, 1948

Alpha Omega/Pittsburgh

Barbara Millen Carroll, 1951
Eloise France Ribisl, 1954
Karen Chenoweth Stack, 1962

Beta Beta/ Randolph-Macon WC

Nancy Colean Howard, 1958
Mary Jane Kolp Smith, 1955
Carol Deffebach Sweeney, 1953

Beta Gamma/Colorado State

Doris Johnson Caine, 1951
Eva Terwilleger Demlow, 1965
Anne Watt Gentry, 1950
Jane Ritter Hornsby, 1946
Burlene Caffey LeClair, 1963

Beta Delta/Arizona

Sue Gross Beshaler, 1948
Janice Hunter Hoeschler, 1958
Marjorie Barrie Koconis, 1958
Carol Cravath Trott, 1952

Beta Epsilon/Oregon State

Nina Gollersrud Christopherson, 1955
Mary Johnson Ford, 1954
Carole Bates Gaily, 1954
Diane Davies Hussey, 1964
Kit Metcalf Miller, 1955
Peggy Colton Wood, 1958

Beta Zeta/Oklahoma State
Dottie Warner Brown, 1950
Kathy Kirkpatrick Hendrickson, 1979
Sue Derhammer Hood, 1952
Susan Bacon Hurt, 1963
Judy Pinion Morrison, 1959
Karen Owen, 1961
Marjorie Conner Ray, 1951
Sara Fowler Robinson, 1978
Susan Holmes Seely, 1963
Carolyn Labadie Tolson, 1952
Betty Burtschi Townsend, 1965
Terri Manning Willson, 1970
Marilyn Miller Wint, 1958
Sue Wright, 1959

Beta Eta/Pennsylvania
Fran Turner Allison, 1941
Helen Hogg Gindele, 1950
Janet Loucks Harvey Parkerson, 1951

Beta Theta/Idaho
Cathy Tatko Collyer, 1976
Jan Fulton Gauger, 1949
Virginia Fox Howarth, 1956
Carol Davison Lamb, 1958
Ann Becker Nilsson, 1957
Ann Redford Patterson, 1957
Patricia Kulzer Peterson, 1943
Jeanne Sutton Schaub, 1973

"Don't belittle what you have done."

Rhoda Kaufman,
Alpha Eta/Vanderbilt

Beta Iota/Colorado
Nancy Brown Davidonis, 1949
Myra Smith Hyde, 1942
Barbara Knorr Moran, 1960
Marilyn Metcalfe Morrison, 1954
Kyra Peck, 2022
Judie Johnson Pierrot, 1957
Wendy Yeaton Smith, 1960
Mary Little Tyler, 1948

Beta Kappa/Drake
Penny Russell Burke, 1967
Meagan Coil, 2003

Beta Lambda/ William & Mary
Joan Howard Burgess, 1950
Betsy Baker Detmer, 1955
Ambler Moncure Fritsche, 1954
Judith Davis Johnson, 1961
Marjorie Kellogg O'Hara, 1944
Nancy Russell Palmer, 1949
Sarah Firebaugh Smith, 1958

Beta Mu/Nevada
Betty Chism Cordes, 1958
Margaret Glenn Coy, 1989
Myldred Cordes Hoover, 1952
Gloria Eddy McEachern, 1948
Karen Stangland, 1971

Beta Nu/Florida State
Sheila Roach Ford, 1962
Marian McEwen Hutchison, 1945

Beta Xi/UCLA
Paddy Currey Grant, 1957
Judy Kerr Graven, 1956
Patricia Carroll Kirby, 1943
Patsy Blank Kortlander, 1943
Linda Schow Moore, 1953
Karly Peterson, 2017
Dorothy Walt Waugh, 1944

Beta Omicron/Iowa
Marilyn Kane Fitch, 1948
Sally Sears Myers, 1947
Debbie Hawkins Pickering, 1960
Jane Mackey Pinkerton, 1954

Beta Pi/Michigan State
Margaret Ayres Boehm, 1942
Joyce Dart Davis, 1949
Joan Faust, 1947
Marilyn Ringler Harrison, 1951
Nancy Parrott Hatton, 1950
Pat Clarisey Hoff, 1951
Marilyn McBride Hoffman, 1952
Josette Fischer Hosking, 1952
Betty Patrick Key, 1948
Margaret Wheeler Korten, 1946
Carolyn Miller Meagher, 1982
Patricia Mullen, 1968
Jean O'Shaunecy, 1951
Joan Swanton Riggs, 1951
Sylvia Stadle Rundquist, 1954
Joan Chessman Shipman, 1956

Beta Rho/~
Jody Jones Hunter, 1948
D'Arlene Brink Llewellyn, 1946
Cynthia Impey Nolen, 1952
Julia Perry, 1968
Suzanne Claughton Schmidt, 1951
Marion Chapman Stadler, 1949
Lillian Grainger Townsend, 1948

Beta Sigma/SMU
Mimi Brinker, 1947
Nancy Sellers Cooper, 1948
Michele Woodward Henderson, 1971
Ann Prideaux Hurt, 1951
Bunny Clark Jackson, 1956
Peggy Prince Mims, 1946
Marsha Moore Moody, 1962
Susan Parker, 1971
Carolyn Crum Reed, 1959
Betty Boyd Skelton, 1965
Barbara Barron Stewart, 1960
Jena Ganey Stubbs, 1958
Ellen Decherd Walker, 1957

Beta Tau/Denison
Peg Collier Bammann, 1946
Martha Morgan Borchers, 1942
Sally Gaskill Brenner, 1953
Molly Jones Brown, 1947
Letty Bryce, 1959
Mary Terry Cumming, 1955
Patricia Simpson Deely, 1972
Sue McManus Fairchild, 1974
Zoe Hines, 2021
Kathleen Qualen Roberts, 1948
Marge Willcox Townsend, 1947

Beta Upsilon/ British Columbia
Stephanie Brawn, 1964

Beta Phi/Penn State
Nancy Higgins Dooley, 1952
Nancy Parent Krieger, 1947
Barbara Culley McKibbin, 1950
Pamela Miller Schussel, 1965
Bonnie Helmig Schwartz, 1962

Beta Chi/Alberta
Belinda Moore, 1978
Doris Dau Roper, 1945

Beta Psi/McGill
Dorothy Baxter, 1950
Ruth Paine, 1937

Beta Omega/ Colorado College
Cindy Richardson Bowling, 1958
Marlyn Wallace Coleman, 1954
Carolyn Swett Halenza, 1949
Janet Abendroth North, 1983

Gamma Gamma/Rollins
Karen Hartmann Hoffman, 1967
Margaret Minnett Hooton, 1960

Gamma Delta/Georgia
Marquin Conklin Barrett, 1951
Joyce Lawhon Gill, 1952
Patricia Heard, 1968
Michelle Menetre Skinner, 1980
Dot Laird Williams, 1952

Gamma Epsilon/Western
Mary Hairsine Allsop, 1951
Carolyn Chesney, 1979

Gamma Zeta/Connecticut
Lynn Schumacher Ekelund, 1947
Janet Grenon Gannon, 1949
Liz McKnight Morrison, 1949
Mary Faith Butler Riley, 1953

Gamma Eta/Massachusetts
Sally Cande Barber, 1950

Gamma Theta/ Carnegie Mellon
Phyllis McLean Bulmer, 1950
Mary Berg Lawrence, 1948
Susan Stryker Mihm, 1955

Gamma Iota/Kentucky
Wanda Shupert Eisenach, 1945
Chris Kinney Embry, 1973
Sarah Taylor Hughes, 1951
Barbara Stevens Kirkham, 1953
Joan Hendricks Mayhugh, 1949

Gamma Mu/Maryland
Claudia Brush Kidwell, 1959
Alva Clarke Millian, 1948

"You should live every moment as fully as you can."

Jane Bennett Connell, Omega/UC Berkeley

Barbara Janz Roche, 1960

Gamma Lambda/Beloit
Susan Waggoner Beeby, 1950
Debi Rowbotham Rechnagel, 1952

Gamma Nu/ North Dakota State
Jo Klevberg Barke, 1954
Marly Eichmiller Bohmer, 1950
Helen Leland Danielson, 1965
Carol Olson Larsen, 1957
Allison Brown Mooney, 1978
Caryn Hartvickson Skjerven, 1968
Carol Kristofitz Smith, 1958
Joyce Lorenz Vasey, 1953

Gamma Xi/San Jose State
Nancy Childrey Armell, 1950
Julia Jessen Hardt, 1963

Gamma Omicron/ New Mexico
Gayle Wendlick Bachechi, 1972
Ilse Jenkins Gay, 1950

Gamma Pi/Iowa State
Carolyn Dashner Amengual, 1959
Debbie Zarley Beres, 1968
Kathy Peters Dagestino, 1975
LaVonne Kidney Farner, 1961
Nancy Parr Reuber, 1952

Gamma Rho/ UC Santa Barbara
Mary Jo Bornemann Childs-Leader, 1951
Erlaine Gregory, 1950
Joanne Taylor Hezlep, 1957
Elenita Quintero Mathew, 1950
Phyllis Melone, 1950
Pat Henon Purtell, 1950

Gamma Sigma/ San Diego State
Frances Butters Carey, 1959
Linda Morrow Stufkosky, 1980

Gamma Tau/Tulsa
Nora Huff Erwin, 1951
Dottie Swingle Gourley, 1961

Gamma Upsilon/Miami
Barbara Snyder Inskeep, 1958

Gamma Phi/Texas Tech
Tooter Fortune Baker, 1955
Jane Tolleson Gibson, 1960
Tommie Campbell Hatch, 1953
Carol Fursman McAdams, 1962
Beth Sowell Murdoch, 1977
Carol Nicholl Staten, 1960

Gamma Chi/Fresno State
Jane Richards Baugh, 1966

Gamma Psi/TCU
Nancy Keay Beasley, 1985
Carolyn Crump Corser, 1958
Ashley Nevin Wilson, 1997

Gamma Omega/Auburn
Patricia Stripling Jaquez, 1964
Amy Meredith, 1972

Delta Zeta/Emory
Julie McKinney, 1970
Margaret McNatt Moore, 1959
Judith Kotys Summers, 1959

Delta Eta/Kansas State
Rae Jean Opie Hunt, 1961
Mary Neil, 1966
Carol Roby, 1971

Delta Kappa/LSU
Blue Pokorny Reeves, 1968

Delta Lambda/Utah
Ursula Knopp McKendree, 1981
Bonnie Davis Wilson, 1969

Delta Xi/North Carolina
Laura Alexander, 1980
Gretchen White, 1987

Delta Sigma/Ball State
Claire Hayner Hicks, 1971
Ina-marie Henning Johnston, 2004

Delta Tau/Montana State
Cindy Ellis Shue, 1978

Delta Phi/Clemson
Lisa Emerson, 2014

Delta Psi/UC Riverside
Lisa Kibbee Reichert, 1982

Delta Omega/Texas A&M
Karen Moskal Hearn, 1987

Epsilon Epsilon/Baylor
Tamara Hansford Hamilton, 1990
Lee Thompson Mays, 1976
Lisa Ward Price, 1983
Joyce Vanston Wright, 1978

Delta Chi/Virginia
Anne Hayward Hammond, 1978

Epsilon Zeta/Mississippi
Mary Brace Scharff, 1985

Epsilon Eta/Centre
Erin Grist May, 1995

Epsilon Iota/Westminster
Molly Walsh Henroid, 2005
Anne McIntosh Schneider, 1982
Mary Schultz, 1984

Zeta Theta/Cal Poly
Leasa Jacobson Wiebke, 1989

Zeta Nu/UC Davis
Sarah Wright, 2006

Zeta Upsilon/UT Dallas
Sara Gondol Baker, 1996

Eta Rho/James Madison
Ashley Williams, 2022

An In Memoriam listing of Thetas who passed away during the previous calendar year is published in each spring issue of the *Kappa Alpha Theta Magazine.*

You may mail notices of deaths to **Kappa Alpha Theta, 8740 Founders Rd., Indianapolis, IN 46268**; email them to Executive Assistant Angela Merk at **amerk@kappaalphatheta.org**; or complete an online contact form: **www.kappaalphatheta.org/contact**.

Empowering Greek Life

The First Amendment Institute's Impact on Collegians

The First Amendment Institute convened in Chicago, Ill., the weekend of Feb. 21-23 and brought together distinguished speakers from legal, higher education, public relations, and faith communities who educated students about the following topics:

- What the First Amendment is and how it applies on college campuses;
- The limits of the First Amendment at public and private institutions;
- The First Amendment situations most commonly facing today's fraternity and sorority students;
- How to build campus allies to work with your organization's headquarters and address First Amendment issues on campus; and
- Planning responses to actual recent campus situations.

Several Thetas joined 58 students from 38 colleges at the First Amendment Institute and shared why they attended and what they learned.

Sonya Schwer, Alpha Mu/Missouri, said she wanted to attend the First Amendment Institute because she wanted to see if Greek life really did have a strong place within politics.

"I met so many strong young men and women who were also passionate about protecting what they love and knowing that we all walked away with so many helpful tools makes me have hope that big things will happen in the future."

Christie Peng, Theta Nu/Georgia Tech, wanted to learn about her First Amendment rights and how she could leverage free speech to improve her college campus. Following the Institute, she plans to join Georgia Tech's student government association and advocate for students' voices.

"I highly recommend attending the [Institute] for any Thetas who want to get more involved with their chapter's leadership or campus organizations."

A Momentous Act Becomes Law

The Stop Campus Hazing Act (H.R. 5646/S.2901) passed on Dec. 11, 2024, in the Senate became law on Dec. 23, 2024. The Act passed the House of Representatives in September 2024.

The Stop Campus Hazing Act's central feature is a requirement for schools to maintain a public web page documenting the student organizations on their respective campuses that have been disciplined in the last few years for actions that had the potential to harm other students. This database would allow parents and students to make informed decisions about what student organizations are safe to join, and student groups that haze new members would either reform themselves or find it challenging to recruit new members in the future.

Maya Orvis, Alpha Pi/North Dakota, wanted to attend the First Amendment Institute because she did not know her First Amendment rights as both a college and sorority woman. As student body vice president at the University of North Dakota, Maya said,

"I hope to educate the other fraternities and sororities on what their protections are and the resources that are available if these are infringed upon. I also hope to strengthen the Panhellenic connections on my campus so we can have a stronger, more united voice."

Summer Pease, Theta Theta/NC State, attended the First Amendment Institute to better understand the First Amendment's relation to colleges and students in Greek life.

"I wanted to learn about what protects Theta and where people could infringe upon it. I love Kappa Alpha Theta through and through and would hate to see something happen to my chapter only because we were not fully educated on our rights."

BECOME A *Life Loyal* THETA!

When you become a Life Loyal member, you help fund educational, communications, and personal development programs for all Thetas. By becoming Life Loyal, you receive every printed issue of the *Theta Magazine*, Fraternity dues payments for life*, a handcrafted lapel pin, a personalized wallet card, and more.

- ◊ You can join and **pay online** by visiting **thetalifeloyal.org.**
- ◊ To join and **pay by mail**, **print the enrollment form** available at **thetalifeloyal.com** and mail the completed form with your check or credit card info to **Kappa Alpha Theta, attn: Angela Merk, 8740 Founders Road, Indianapolis, IN 46268**.
- ◊ To join and **pay by phone**, call Theta headquarters, **800-526-1870 ext. 140**, and provide your contact and payment information.

**Not including alumnae chapter dues*

These women enrolled between August 1, 2024, and January 31, 2025.

Alpha/DePauw
Sarah Dance Bridgwater
Michelle Curry Brobston
Liz Copher Browning
Libby Emison Cochrane
Kristin Comer
Ashley Patton Emison
Sara Tocks Gummersall
Mary Helmen Kinsey
Melinda Helmen Schweer
Amy Weisenbach
Catharine Iversen Zabrowski

Beta/Indiana
Cheryl Ade
Diane Druck
Susan Siegert Mougalian
Diane Barber Silcox
Janet McGowan Smith
Natalie Best Winter
Susan Barker Yeley

Mu/Allegheny
Corinne Akahoshi

Eta/Michigan
Karla Dougan Pendexter
Sandy Sarnes Wallen

Kappa/Kansas
Ann Wilkin Crow
Katy Ferrarini Scott
Amy Hunt Sell

Lambda/Vermont
Allison Bower

Nu/Hanover
Christy Lehman Finegan
Susan Eads Role

Omicron/USC
Judy Ferguson Myton

Pi/Albion
Michaela Swart

Rho/Nebraska
Maxton Bezousek
Julia Huebner
Julie Metzger Rose
Meghan Schulz-Memming
Jan Skaro Seidell
Lisa Worrall

Tau/Northwestern
Sue Schleif Wilson

Upsilon/Minnesota
Leanne Adamsky Lund
Rachel Mackey

Phi/Pacific
Jennifer Ritter Brill

Chi/Syracuse
Alex Cook Conrad

Psi/Wisconsin
Joan Murphy
Jen Shea
Jenn Urban

Omega/UC Berkeley
Lauren McDonald McGinley

Alpha Gamma/Ohio State
Georganne Dreier Carpenter
Barbara McNemar Cummings
Britt Peschke Ide
Karen Campbell Wilkinson

Delta/Illinois
Kyra Jenner

Alpha Eta/Vanderbilt
Lannie Daniel Jewell
Anne Marsden Tate

Alpha Theta/Texas
Alice Anne Dodge
Ethel Wiley Dodge
Cheri Cathriner Fossler
Jill Kerbow Imhoff
Julia Wells Lawhon
Helen Tipps Watkins

Alpha Iota/Washington-St. Louis
Michelle Landau Brooks

Alpha Mu/Missouri
Brandi Chapman
Robin Pestien Mullen
NiCole McHargue Neal
Katie Parkins
Melissa Schorr
Melissa Haynes Skeens

Alpha Nu/Montana
Jillian Davis Charlton

Alpha Xi/Oregon
Susan Terrill Rosene

Alpha Omicron/Oklahoma
Lindsey Cochran Burns
Maddie Clarke
Tamara Ferguson Hermen
Carrie McFall Higgins
Alexa Lienhard

Alpha Pi/North Dakota
Marna Youngberg Wiggen

Alpha Rho/South Dakota
Mary Linda Mead
Carol Dunn Norbeck

Alpha Sigma/Washington State
Kara Yenney Walk

Alpha Phi/Tulane
Anne Goldman Brinkley
Jill Hack Brodkey
Aubrey Hermen Bussow
Joanne McHugh Lanaux
Meah Matherne
Amelie Chopin Verma
Elizabeth "Liz" Wetzel

Alpha Chi/Purdue
Paige Hackleman
Sally Wiese Matthews
Joyce Wolfe Wilhelm

Alpha Psi/Lawrence
Terri Schwoch Crawford
Margie Lavelle Gater

Beta Delta/Arizona
Alex McCaffery
Christy Poropat

Beta Epsilon/Oregon State
Jen Boone Foley
Jan Jessup

Beta Zeta/Oklahoma State
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Lexie Stadler Jones
Melissa Radke
Bonnie Waters Schwarz

Beta Eta/Pennsylvania
Jan McLaughlin Warner

Beta Theta/Idaho
Wilma Schmidt Smith

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Denise DeLario Frontczak
Lesley Horton
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Peggy Hause Ball
Lisa Davis-Cook

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Janet Alexander Aylor
Grace Turbiville Colwell
Karen Peacock
Sherry Harrison Sites

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Kate Brewer Gingras
Taylor Hunt
Mary Ricciardi
Makayla Wijesinghe

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Cindy Amick

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Catalina Cao
Bella Croft
Nolen Edwards
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Brooklyn Hughes
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Hailey Mutsemaker
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Laurie Smith

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Christine Haeberlin
Marianna Lechman
Priya Singh
Kendra Thomas

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Marti Gregg Demetrion
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Deb Dobrowski Bentfield
Sherri Shepel Koshiol
Lauri Hlebechuk Kupitz
Lori Lamont Lange
Loree Raaen Morse
Amber Balken Schatz
Karla Schmit
Kim Dennis Timmers
Sara Tanke Wald

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Patricia Bodnar Wilkinson

Gamma Omicron/New Mexico
Margaret Kynor McGlaun

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Emily Roberts

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Julie Gerry Dachtler

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Erin Kern Timmerding

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Mandi Jordan Dever
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Carol Mungle Scott

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Kathryn Grimes Garrett
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Karly Swett

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Dre Guttag
Christy Warner Malko

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Sherri Tierney Reynolds
Kate Scanlan

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Sam Anders
Katie Breece
Holly Powell
Judy Rowe Smith

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Halle Briede
Cheryl Bayles Freyou
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Leanne Saloom Howell
Erin Husbands
Jamie Pettway Mills
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Heather Sherrard Kingston

Delta Xi/North Carolina
Catherine Cate Sullivan

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Megan Reder Clancy
Baylee Clark
Stacia Dickinson Phillips
Debra Colvin Reardon
Pamela Reyhan
Taylor Northern Ridiner

Delta Pi/Tennessee
Barbara Button Corey

Delta Rho/South Florida
Francine Tuero Clegg
Mary Jane Ferguson
Sherry Cowart Ogden
Debbie Popenoe
Mimi DeLaParte Talcott
Carol Tuero

Delta Omega/Texas A&M
Amy Todd Holmes

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Tracee Maestas Amling
Denise Jacobson Hendrix
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Gail Weigel Ortiz
Susan Smelko Schmitt

Delta Chi/Virginia
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Epsilon Theta/Stetson
Sarah Joyner

Epsilon Mu/Princeton
Lucy Kloeppel

Epsilon Xi/Villanova
Marianne Lange Slamm

Epsilon Sigma/UC Irvine
Toni Weir Dampier
Melanie Terry

Epsilon Tau/Yale
Azita Hamedani
Ambereen Rizvi Toubassy

Epsilon Chi/Guelph
Danielle Coffer

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Anna Jeter Nelson

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Emelia Muilenburg

Zeta Iota/Washington & Lee
Kathryn Sheppard Hoar

Zeta Lambda/Charleston
Susan Duncan Pope
Anna Rushing

Zeta Mu/MIT
Stephanie Shaw

Zeta Nu/UC Davis
Julie Nicolai Kokes
Emma Loll

Zeta Xi/~
Emily Woolway

Zeta Rho/UC San Diego
Amy Wolcott Schwartz

Zeta Upsilon/UT Dallas
Diane Gordon

Zeta Psi/Southern Mississippi
Laura Mabry Stout

Eta Eta/College of Idaho
Sarah Tschohl

Eta Theta/Central Florida
Ashley Harper
Christina Austin Muller

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Catherine Cunha
Sierra Rafto

Eta Sigma/Chapman
Marissa Messina

Eta Tau/Tampa
Gracie Prather
Jacqueline DePetro

Theta Theta/NC State
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Theta Nu/Georgia Tech
Jordan Cheney

Theta Xi/UC Santa Cruz
Christina Blake

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Voices

Returning back to school to obtain my master's degree has been one of the most challenging and rewarding journeys of my life…[R]eceiving the Dorothy Whitehurst Heard Scholarship from Theta Foundation reminded me that hard work and perseverance truly pay off.

Leigh Alvarez
Zeta Kappa/South Carolina
(See page 20.)

Kappa Alpha Theta cannot function without the thousands of volunteers who make it all happen. Thank you, Theta volunteers!

"Volunteers, We See You!"
(See page 24.)

My work with CASA/GAL has enhanced my Theta membership by deepening my connection to the values and mission of our sisterhood. It has provided me with a tangible way to live out the principles of service and advocacy that Theta upholds.

Beth Spransy Dickinson
Delta Xi/North Carolina
(See page 16.)

For many of us, spring not only means warmer weather and outdoor activities, but also college graduation time! As a college-based organization, it is part of the life cycle of Theta's college chapters to have seniors graduate and move on to life beyond college.

"Theta Graduates"
(See page 10.)

All in all, the future of our Fraternity is in good hands. No, *great* hands. Future generations of Thetas are ready to take on the hard work; they are curious, motivated, and determined; they will do incredible things in their lives, in their communities, for Theta, and more.

Isabella Markovski-Dickey
Alpha/DePauw
(See page 3.)